

## BART Becomes the Gateway to the World

*Family Day June 7, 2003 – See story on page 4*





# BART Police Honors Officers, Employees & Citizens

The BART Police Department praised the exemplary achievements of officers, community service assistants, BART employees and citizens who aided the department in crime-fighting during 2002 at the seventh annual awards ceremony held March 18 at the Metro Center Auditorium.

BART Police Chief Gary Gee presented the 2002 Officer of the Year Award to Officer Dennis Dutra for his loyalty to law enforcement, the Department and fellow officers, and for performing in the finest tradition of the profession. A former Oakland Police Sergeant, Dennis retired from the Oakland department after 21 years and joined the BART force, where he has now been for nine years. "He is the consummate cop," says Gary. "He has the enthusiasm of someone just starting out, and the wisdom of a veteran. Dennis is the backbone of the operation and the guy you want to handle cases. We were surprised when he wanted to join the BART Police, given that he had just retired from Oakland. He told us, 'I just like being a beat cop.' He has excelled, and served as a role model and an inspiration to his fellow officers."

Dennis also was honored at an awards banquet held May 27 sponsored by the El Cerrito Albany Exchange Club, which each year salutes the Officers of the Year from several East Bay police agencies. Adds Gary, "Dennis is the only officer I know who was featured on the television series, 'Top Cops.' It involved a case in the Oakland Hills where he pursued a suspect with his canine officer, who was shot. The suspect was apprehended and the dog later recovered."

Officer Michael Davis, 2001 Officer of the Year, also was recognized. He had been involved in Special Olympics, training at the police academy and mentoring officers as the lead field trainer.



*Pictured (left to right) Lt. Steve Langner, Commander Clark Lynch, Citizen Cornell Miller, C.H.P. Sgt. Mark Gomez, Ofcr. Sylvester Jones, Lt. Pamela Cherry, Ofcr. Forrest Tietz, Sgt. Mike Miller, Ofcr. Mike Davis, Ofcr. Sheldon Forehand, Ofcr. Don Walker, Lt. Maria White, Ofcr. Dave Armacost, Lt. Alan Feia, System Service Worker Ambrose Akinmusire, CSA Michele Lazaneo, Commander Wade Gomes, Ofcr. Jericho Pascual, Ofcr. Mike Hayes & Zent (kneeling), Lt. Gregg Savage, Lt. Thom Pennewell, Ofcr. Ethridge Marks, Communications Supervisor Jean Mulligan, Ofcr. Mike Hotton and Ofcr. Glen Parker*

BART Police Officer Michael Hayes and his canine officer Zent came to the mutual aid of the Berkeley Police Department to help locate an armed robbery suspect who had been near the North Berkeley BART Station. Zent went straight to work, and the scent led to an attic in a shed quite a distance away. They located the suspect, who still had the 9mm pistol used in the robbery. Confronting a dangerous situation, police were able to apprehend the suspect without incident.

Detective Keith Justice investigated the case of a con artist who had filed false invoices with BART, stealing \$90,000 from the District. Keith was relentless in his investigation, which led to an arrest for felony grant theft in Monrovia (southern California). And another award, Dispatch Center Supervisor Jean Mulligan was commended for her outstanding dedication to duty, helping to keep calm in one of the most stressful jobs in law enforcement.

While off duty and in line at the bank, Sgt. Barry Williams observed a robbery in progress. He approached the teller, who confirmed his suspicion. Barry identified himself as an off-duty police officer and pursued the rob-

*Continued on page 6*

## Police Promotions

BART Police Chief Gary Gee announced five recent promotions in preparation for opening the West Bay and San Francisco International Airport extensions. Sgt. William

Schultz was promoted to Lieutenant, while Officers David Chlebowski, Terence McCarty, Eugene Wong and Forrest Tietz were promoted to Sergeant. The promotions were effective May 19. **b**



*Chlebowski*



*McCarty*



*Schultz*



*Tietz*



*Wong*



# Olé at BART's 18th Annual Cinco de Mayo Celebration!



Lively music, song and dance highlighted BART's 18th annual Cinco de Mayo celebration held May 5 in LMA Plaza. The BART tradition continued as BART employees, Lincoln Elementary School students and area residents celebrated and reflected on the importance of the Battle of Puebla that took place on May 5.

BART General Manager Tom Margro welcomed everyone with "Buenos Dias" and thanked BART employees for organizing the event. A representative for Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson expressed his appreciation that BART takes the time to recognize the importance of Cinco de Mayo. BART Board President Pete Synder and BART Director Carole Ward-Allen also acknowledged the significance of the day.



Master of Ceremonies Henry Miranda introduced the Mariachi Nacional de Mexico, which opened up festivities with spirited music. Event coordinator Anita Cadena Sanchez spoke to the elementary school students about the historical event and the merits of overcoming adversity by working together.

The Ballet Folklorico de Carlos Moreno dazzled the audience, not only with beautiful costumes and intricate dance moves, but also with their youthfulness as some of the dancers were also elementary school students.

Thanks for a job well done to the BART Cinco de Mayo Committee. Congratulations to Henry Miranda, Berta Villalva, Julie Renteria and Anita Cadena Sanchez. Special thanks to Cinco de Mayo helpers Charlie Alexander and Jeff Connors and their respective crews for setting up the stage and sprucing up the grounds. Thanks also to Donny Woo for setting up chairs; and to Ruby Clark, Arcelia Damen, Dara McIntosh, Wanda McPherson, Anna Pfeiffer, Sabrina Sun, Yolie Vega and Julie Yim for decorating and serving refreshments.

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# BART Becomes the Gateway to the World

**B**ART employees will already have had a "sneak peek" at BART's West Bay extensions and the new BART San Francisco International Airport station (SFIA) when revenue service to the airport and to Millbrae begins on Sunday, June 22.

BART hosted an Employee Day on Saturday, June 7 for employees and their families to ride the extensions to get a preview of all four new stations, entering the system at Colma to view the South San Francisco, San Bruno, SFIA and Millbrae stations. The event was held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The public will have a chance to view the system prior to revenue service on Saturday, June 21. Patrons will be invited to enter the extension at any of the new stations to

ride within the new stations' area at no cost. The event will be held from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Congratulations to all BART employees involved in the West Bay extensions program. BART has made history, thanks to your efforts. **b**



## Give Blood... Save a Life

**B**ART netted 94 percent of its goal in collecting usable blood at a joint blood drive held March 25 with ABAG and MTC. The event drew 55 employees from all three agencies to donate blood to the Alameda-Contra Costa Blood Bank. "With 47 of the 55 donated pints deemed useful by the blood bank, we achieved 94 percent of our goal," said Carminda Gutierrez, BART's blood drive organizer. "At three lives per pint donated, we can say we helped to save 141 lives."

"The ultimate benefactors are those who receive blood and blood components," states Carminda. "It's important to participate in blood drives; given that we're now into the vacation season, there's a high chance of traffic injuries and other events where the demand for blood goes up."

Carminda cautions that the community need is constant. "The blood banks and hospitals are supposed to have a three-day supply at any given time to meet the needs of a disaster or emergency," she relates. "They usually only have a one or two-day supply. This means the community blood supply does not meet the potential demand."

The Alameda-Contra Costa Blood Bank makes whole blood and blood components available to benefit disaster victims, those requiring blood transfusions and those with blood disease.

BART, MTC and ABAG have held joint blood drives since 1984. Anyone with questions concerning the blood drive may call Carminda at 510-464-6237. **b**

## Bowl Away the Fog – It's Summer in the City

**S**ummer is upon us and you know what that means. The Bay Area's "natural" air conditioning, rolling in off the coast and hilltops – good 'ol San Francisco fog! A welcome site for some for easing the strain of those high temps. (Unless you're in the far East Bay, where smog is the call of the hour.)

Beat the heat or the mist that flattens your hair. The BART Bowling League offers up a great time for all! Polish your bowling shoes and plan to join your BART friends at the next bowling tournament. Here's the run down for the last few months.

'How high can you go?' was the question when bowlers returned to the Albany Bowl on March 22. Bryant Hicks answered the call with a High Series of 710, joining Glenda Olson with 536. High Game went to Joe Olson (274) and Suzanne Hicks (196). Rounding out the Top Five with Joe and Bryant were Andy Williams (656), Johnnie

Hicks (647) and Harry Straub (628). Al Browder was along for the fun.

The league traveled north to Napa on May 3 to ring in the spring. Reggie Lewis (241) and Glenda Olson (263) (go girl!) grabbed Top Game, while Top Series went to Andy Williams (635) and Suzanne Hicks (593). Reggie, Glenda, Andy and Suzanne were joined in the Top Five by James Sarratt (613). Johnnie and Bryant Hicks were along for the fun, along with Joe Olson.

"The handicap system keeps the scoring fair and pretty even," notes Andy Williams, league organizer. "So, there's something for everyone, from beginner to seasoned pro. We do this for fun and friendship, not competition."

The next tournament is in June. Get the 411 on "all things bowling" from Andy Williams at ext. 5153 or ext. 5775 or Glenda Olson at ext. 2794. See you at the bowling alley! **b**



# Great Ideas by BART Employees

**B**ART employees help increase efficiency and save costs by presenting their ideas for improving BART operations to the Employee Suggestion Program. They are duly rewarded for proposals that succeed. (Please note, some awards represent a net payment once state and federal taxes have been deducted.) Here are recent awardees and their ideas:

## **Demetrius Arnold**

*Train Operator, Transportation*

Information on overtime, extra board assignments, family leave, hold-downs and other information was stored on an Excel document and often incomplete. Demetrius suggested linking a new Excel database to the program to produce a more complete report for scheduling. The Crew Office produced faster and more accurate reports and Demetrius' idea was estimated to save BART over \$23,000 in five years, earning him a cost savings award of \$5,980.

## **Jeff Brooks**

*Maintenance Worker III, Rolling Stock & Shops*

The air tube on the coupler assembly was secured by clamp supports, which were then clamped to the soft rubber hose, creating stress. Jeff suggested repositioning the clamp supports, moving them back to the metal hose collar to relieve stress on the soft rubber hose. Jeff received a \$150 customer service award.

## **Brad Burguin**

*Maintenance Worker III, Rolling Stock and Shops*

When the power receptacle cover was open, it would hang down below the running rail, leaving the potential for damage when airbags would deflate. Brad suggested installing a piece of stock-item foam rubber weather stripping on the cover to prevent damage and down time. He received a \$200 customer service award.

## **Robert Burroughs**

*Maintenance Worker III, Maintenance and Engineering*

Installing Radiax cable involved interrupting cable reel pay out while securing the clamps. Robert suggested constructing a hand tool for rapid closure without interrupting cable pay out. Rapid installation throughout underground tunnels would reduce the time required for this task, thereby releasing workers for other work. The tool was deemed to permit continuous, uninterrupted pay out of the Radiax cable, earning Robert a \$200 customer service award.

## **Thomas H. Delaney**

*Maintenance Worker III, Maintenance and Engineering*

Track inspectors had to use a hand-held measuring tool to check the vertical distance between the top of the stock rail and the top of the switch point. Thomas suggested constructing a track-level mounted caliper modified to pro-

vide a more accurate measurement. His idea was implemented and Thomas received a \$500 customer service award.

## **Evelyn Drew**

*Station Agent, Transportation*

The curb painted red as part of the fire lane perturbed into the crosswalk, causing some patrons to trip and sometimes fall. Evelyn suggested adding light fixtures or a reflector strip to mitigate this hazard. Lights were attached to the underside of the BART and Caltrans bridge deck to create a safer environment, earning Evelyn a \$100 safety award.

## **Arthur Johnson**

*Maintenance Worker, Maintenance and Engineering*

A diesel-operated steam cleaner was used to clean all District vehicles and equipment. Its high-pressure steam unit was in constant need of repair and diesel fuel was expensive. Arthur suggested replacing the machine with a car wash unit without the steam unit. That would reduce the need – and cost – for maintenance. Arthur's idea was estimating to save \$11,208 over five years, earning him a cost savings award of \$2,802.

## **Steven McEvilly**

*Maintenance Worker III, Maintenance and Engineering*

The Scheidt and Bachmann ticket printers caused ticket jams, or "spitting" of the BART blue ticket stock. Steven suggested adjusting the transmission of the printer to eliminate ticket jams approximately 98 percent of the time. His idea earned Steven an efficiency savings award of \$1,436.

## **David Mohn**

*Maintenance Worker III, Rolling Stock and Shops*

Removing the 80-pound C2 LVPS required that it be held in place while turning the four mounting bolts. David suggested adding a support bracket under the unit to better support its weight, and reduce the potential for damage. With the bracket installed, the LVPS would be supported and easily controlled by one person. David received a \$150 customer service award.

## **Robert Parker**

*Maintenance Worker III, Rolling Stock and Shops*

Mounting the brake box equipment on C Cars was difficult to accomplish without pushing the mounting bolts out of the bracket holes. Robert suggested adding a stop nut to the mount bolt to secure the bolts to the mounting bracket. The brake box could then be installed up against the nut on the lower end to keep the bolts tightly in place, and make it easier to position the brake boxes in the mount holder. It also would make it easier for mechanics to install washers. Robert received a \$500 customer service award.

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# Protecting Our Nation in These Times of Conflict

**T**hree BART employees are among the Americans protecting our Nation by serving in military service overseas. As members of their respective military branch's reserve, each employee was called up in recent months.

Electrical Engineer Victor V. Austria was called into service in October 2001 as a Captain in the Air National Guard. During the Afghan conflict, Victor spent several months on Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean at an American base working on communications networks and loading ordnance onto aircraft. Following a brief respite in North Carolina, he was dispatched to the Persian Gulf. For

his excellent work, Victor was promoted to Major. He is expected back home by this October.

The Coast Guard called into service BART Police Officer Jacob A. Westlie a couple of months ago. He is in an unnamed location and may in service for up to a year.

The 129th Wing of the U.S. Air Force Reserve called up Transit Vehicle Mechanic Duane C. Carr on April 6 for up to two years, according to Ron Cook, superintendent of the Hayward Shops. He was assigned to Operation Iraqi Freedom and his current location is unknown. "We miss his talent at BART and we will welcome him home when he returns," said Ron. **b**

## BART Police Honors Officers, Employees & Citizens

*continued from page 2*

ber. With gun drawn, he arrested the suspect just outside the bank and turned him over to the El Cerrito Police Department

CSA Michele Lazanao was saluted for having a very keen eye. She's assigned to the Operations Control Center to observe activity being recorded on BART's closed circuit television system. Last March, she saw someone at the 12th Street BART Station matching the description of a sexual battery suspect. The suspect was subsequently arrested for 15 counts of sexual battery. Her attention to detail also resulted in the arrest of several suspects responsible for auto-related crimes.

When a suspect stabbed a man near Broadway and 14th Street in downtown Oakland, he thought he could escape on BART. Fleeing on foot and armed, he made his way into the 12th Street BART Station and onto a train, where he was taken into custody by Officers John Davenport, Forrest Tietz and Don Walker.

Officers Jericho (Jerry) Pascual and Don Walker helped prevent a mentally ill man from jumping off of the aerial trackway at the El Cerrito del Norte BART Station. They had spotted him on the trackway while riding a train into the station. Jerry spoke to the man, distracting him so that Don could grab him away from danger.

Officer David Armacost received the "10851" award from the California Highway Patrol and California State Automobile Association for recovering stolen vehicles and arresting auto thieves. He was recognized for recovering at least 12 stolen cars during a 12-month period (in and around BART station parking lots) and arresting three suspects. David received the blue 10851 pin (noted for Vehicle Code Section 10851 for auto theft) for recoveries and arrests logged in 2002.

Several officers were commended for their service to the Special Problems and Rescue Team (SPAR), the BART Police "SWAT" team specially trained in weapons, rescue and hostage situations. Saluted were Commander Clark

Lynch, Lt. Thom Pennewell, Sgt. Donald E. Miller, Sgt. Donald M. Miller, and Officers Gilbert Lopez, William Hammer, Sylvester Jones, Ethridge Marks, Sheldon Forehard, Alfredo Zamoro, Edward T. Parker, David Betancourt, Lester Scanlan and Glenn Parker.

Three BART employees were recognized for helping BART Police officers apprehend suspects. AFC Technician James Koepke forced a robbery suspect to the ground, holding him until police arrived at the Powell Street BART Station. When a violently resisting suspect fought Officer Michael Cain to the ground at the Montgomery Street BART Station, Escalator Repairman Jim Albericci interceded to help take the suspect into custody. System Service Worker Ambrose Akinmusire helped Officer Tim Pashoian control, handcuff and arrest a violently resisting suspect at the Dublin/Pleasanton BART Station who had an out-of-state warrant out for his arrest.

Four citizens also were saluted for helping BART Police. Christy Lee Norris and Lily Regalado were driving near the 19th Street BART Station and saw a woman chasing a man, who had just robbed her of her purse. They followed the man and were instrumental in his capture, arrest and the return of the woman's purse. Cornell Miller prevented a man from throwing a baby and the baby's mother over a railing into the plaza, 25 feet below, at the Powell Street BART Station. BART Police arrested the suspect for attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon and kidnapping. Shawn Spencer grabbed the arm of a man who had just taken a woman's purse at the Civic Center BART Station, handcuffing the man to himself to prevent him from getting away. BART Police officers arrived and arrested the suspect for robbery.

Award presenters included BART Chief of Police Gary Gee, Commander Wade Gomes, Lt. Maria White, Lt. Pamela Cherry, Lt. Gregg Savage, Lt. Steve Langner and Lt. Alan Feia. **b**



# 5 Years Perfect Attendance!

Beyond the usual vacation, holiday and comp time, these employees have taken no other time off of their jobs for five years, including sick leave and disability leave. The District recently honored 35 BART employees for "Excellent Attendance."

*Congratulations to the following BART employees for five years of Excellent Attendance!*



Alfonso Amey



Paul C. Becker



Ruth Bennett



Anita Cadera Sanchez



Ernest J. Cameron



Frankie Chan



Shu Ching "Bill" Chan



Vinod K. Chopra



Vernon Crowl



John Gee



Lynanne Grace



Cathy Griffin



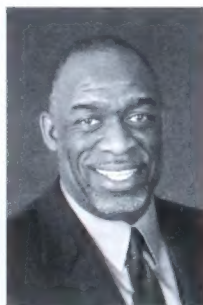
Douglas Horn



Alan Hubbard



Gwendolyn L. Jackson



Wilson Johnson



Bruce E. King



Robert Krehbiel



Ramon Latorre



Brendan Lee



Henry Lee



Cheryl Louie



Joyce Lum-Emmons



Michael G. Masek



Vick McCoy



James R. Meadows



Richard Pakulski



Clifford Payne



Alejandro Serrano



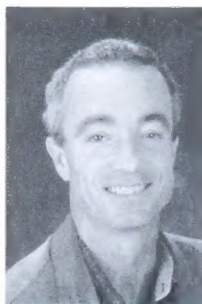
Peter Sklover



Gary Sue



Victor Tang



Robert Umbreit



Yolanda Vega



Dennis Wilkerson



# Taking the Message to the Next Generation

**B**ART Senior Auditor Rey Campbell took the message of professional dignity to local high school students on April 25 at Skyline High School's "Skylennium 2003" career and college expo. The event was held to inspire teens to achieve great things in the professional world. Over 100 professionals shared their perspectives on career opportunities.

As a guest speaker, Rey imparted wisdom about the components of success – hard work, focus, being goal oriented and staying in school. He talked to students about the importance of discovering what they love to do and developing those talents with an eye toward making a career. "If you want to excel, curiosity and lifetime learning are required," Rey said. "Be active in your communities; reach a comfort level with diversity; seek out internships and be competent with current technologies."

Rey spoke about his career as a professional auditor. "It is dynamic and requires intelligent and dedicated professionals. Internal audit is very high profile and provides exposure to the way a company operates." Rey's audits at

BART have led to improved operations and internal controls. In conclusion, Rey said, "Coming back to Skyline and being able to give back restores me and makes me glad. I hope that I helped someone."

Rey is a certified public accountant and fraud examiner. He teaches at Laney College and previously worked for AC Transit in internal audit. Rey was a self-employed CPA for 14 years, serving private sector, nonprofit, government and individual clients. **b**

## Thank You for Your Warmth

**B**ART Police Officer Sylvester Jones and his family would like to thank everyone for the warm thoughts and kind expressions given during their time of grief in the loss of his father. Thank you all, so very much.

Sylvester Jones and Family. **b**

## This Message is From Michal F. Settles

**E**lectrician Leslie Lagdamen was seriously injured in a 34.5kv electrical explosion while working at the Balboa Park Substation on Sunday, May 3, 2003. He is presently in ICU at San Francisco General Hospital with burns over 35 percent of his body. The doctors seem confident that he will recover, but it will take considerable time before he may return to work. District employees may donate vacation or holiday time for use by Leslie during his recovery. BART employees interested in donating time should contact Carla Henson-Perez, Human Resources, at ext. 4728.

Thank you for your concern, generosity, and prayers for Leslie and his family. **b**



### Cabin for Rent in Twain Harte Area.

Two blocks to private beach & horse area (paddle & rowboats, slide off dock). Nearby lakes for boating, fishing and river rafting. Historic parks & caves nearby. Snow ski in winter. Fully equipped, Sleeps 8. \$175/weekend, \$65/weekday, \$400/week. Call Sue at ext. 3701 or 925/828-4636.

### Breathtaking View and Sunsets!

Townhouse for rent in Lake Tahoe. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fully furnished and equipped. Half-mile to casinos, nightlife, golf course, beach, ski slopes, etc. Located in Lake Village, NV adjacent to the national forests for great walks and hiking. \$225-300 per day. Call Ted at 510/659-7949.

*Time to clean out those drawers, closets and garages! BARTalk's Trash and Treasures column offers you an opportunity to pick up some extra cash for those unwanted items you no longer need. Send your ads—no telephone calls—to Trash & Treasures, BARTalk, LMA-1; E-mail to vwills; or Fax to 510-464-7118.*

## BARTalk

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